

CLAIMS:

We claim:

1 1. A method comprising:
2 generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for
3 components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and
4 tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID
5 uniquely referring to said asset record.

1 2. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
2 generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having
3 characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said
4 database.

1 3. A method according to claim 2 wherein generating includes:
2 determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase
3 order;
4 if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for
5 said asset; and
6 utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said
7 generating said purchase order.

1 4. A method according to claim 2 further comprising:
2 transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;
3 waiting for ordered components to be received; and
4 if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said
5 received components from the packages containing said received components.

1 5. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:
2 storing said information into said management database.

1 6. A method according to claim 4 further comprising:
2 determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified
3 as deployable.

1 7. A method according to claim 6 wherein determining includes:
2 if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly
3 of an asset have been received; and
4 if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then
5 placing said received components in storage.

1 8. A method according to claim 7 wherein if said asset requires assembly,
2 and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components
3 such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1 9. A method according to claim 1 wherein tagging includes:
2 generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area
3 containing many different assets.

1 10. A method according to claim 1 wherein said tagging further includes
2 generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and
3 affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.

1 11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said sticker is a bar-code
2 readable sticker.

1 12. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:
2 updating the state in said asset management database of said asset to 'deployable'.

1 13. A method according to claim 9 wherein said designated area is in part or in
2 whole a data center.

1 14. A method according to claim 1 wherein configuration information for said
2 asset is stored in its asset record.

1 15. A system comprising:
2 a management system database configured to store an asset record when an order
3 for components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered, said asset
4 record indexed by a unique asset identification (ID), said asset ID uniquely referring to
5 said asset within a facility; and
6 a connection mechanism coupling said management system database to various
7 nodes located in said facility, and coupling said management system database to an
8 inventory database;

1 16. A system according to claim 15 wherein said facility is a data center.

1 17. A system according to claim 15 wherein said connection mechanism
2 includes network connectivity.

1 18. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes
2 configuration information regarding said asset.

1 19. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes
2 purchase order information regarding said components of said asset.

1 20. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes state
2 information regarding said asset.

1 21. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset is tagged with a sticker
2 containing said asset ID.

1 22. An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions
2 stored thereon which when executed cause:
3 generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for
4 components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and
5 tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID
6 uniquely referring to said asset record.

1 23. An article according to claim 22 which further causes:
2 generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having
3 characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said
4 database.

1 24. An article according to claim 23 wherein generating includes:
2 determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase
3 order;
4 if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for
5 said asset; and

6 utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said
7 generating said purchase order.

1 25. An article according to claim 22 which further causes:
2 transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;
3 waiting for ordered components to be received; and
4 if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said
5 received components from the packages containing said received components.

1 26. An article according to claim 25 which further causes:
2 storing said information into said management database.

1 27. An article according to claim 25 which further causes:
2 determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified
3 as deployable.

1 28. An article according to claim 27 wherein determining includes:
2 if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly
3 of an asset have been received; and
4 if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then
5 placing said received components in storage.

1 29. An article according to claim 28 wherein if said asset requires assembly,
2 and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components
3 such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1 30. An article according to claim 22 wherein tagging includes:
2 generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area
3 containing many different assets.

1 31. An article according to claim 30 wherein said tagging further includes:
2 generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and
3 affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.